

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated January 3, 2006 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

By this Response, claims 1 and 8 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-15 are pending in the application. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in view of the above amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Publication No. 2002/0163615, issued to Fujioka et al. (hereafter “Fujioka”) in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0131003, issued to Matsumoto (hereafter “Matsumoto”) and U.S. Patent No. 5,737,051, issued to Kondo et al. (hereafter “Kondo”). And, claims 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujioka and Kondo in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,894,753, issued to Song et al. (hereafter “Song”). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections because neither Fujioka, Matsumoto, Kondo, nor Song, analyzed alone or in any combination, teaches or suggests the combined features recited in the claims of the present application.

For example, Fujioka, Matsumoto, Kondo and Song fail to teach an in-plane switching mode liquid crystal display device that includes, among other features, “a sealant in the sealant region attaching the first and second substrates, wherein the sealant is located over the gate and data pads; a metallic black matrix formed in the sealant region that extends into the array region of the first substrate” and “an organic layer on the color filter in the array region, the organic layer covering at least a portion of the metallic black matrix to shield an electric field in the array region” as recited in independent claim 1 of the present application.

Fujioka, Matsumoto, Kondo and Song further fail to teach a method for fabricating an in-plane switching mode liquid crystal display device that includes, among other features, “forming a metallic black matrix in the sealant region that extends into the array region of the first substrate” and “forming an organic layer on the color filter in the array region, the organic

Amendment dated: April 3, 2006

Reply to Office Action dated January 3, 2006

layer covering at least a portion of the metallic black matrix to shield an electric field in the array region” as recited in independent claim 8 of the present application.

The Office Action concedes that Fujioka does not teach all the recited features of the present application. To remedy the deficient teachings of Fujioka, the Office Action relies upon varied teachings of Matsumoto, Kondo and Song. Based upon the varied teachings of Matsumoto, Kondo and Song, the Office Action concludes that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the device of Fujioka by the teachings of Matsumoto, Kondo and Song to obtain a device having the combined features recited in the claims of the present application. Applicant respectfully disagrees and submits no combination of Fujioka, Matsumoto, Kondo and Song would provide the structure of the in-plane switching mode liquid crystal display device and method for fabricating having the combined features recited in independent claims 1 and 8 of the present application.

Because Fujioka, Matsumoto, Kondo and Song fail to at least provide “a sealant in the sealant region attaching the first and second substrates, wherein the sealant is located over the gate and data pads; a metallic black matrix formed in the sealant region that extends into the array region of the first substrate” and “an organic layer on the color filter in the array region, the organic layer covering at least a portion of the metallic black matrix to shield an electric field in the array region” as recited in independent claim 1, claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-7 and 14 are allowable over any combination of Fujioka, Matsumoto, Kondo and Song.

Additionally, because Fujioka, Matsumoto, Kondo and Song fail to at least provide a method for fabricating an in-plane switching mode liquid crystal display device that includes “forming a metallic black matrix in the sealant region that extends into the array region of the first substrate” and “forming an organic layer on the color filter in the array region, the organic layer covering at least a portion of the metallic black matrix to shield an electric field in the array region” as recited in independent claim 8, claim 8 and its dependent claims 9-13 and 15 are allowable over any combination of Fujioka, Matsumoto, Kondo and Song.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Application No.: 10/644,034
Amendment dated: April 3, 2006
Reply to Office Action dated January 3, 2006

Docket No.: 8734.223.00-US

Applicant believes the foregoing amendments and remarks place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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Respectfully submitted,

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